



# VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Task Force Meeting Minutes  
 Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Agency	Present	Primary	Secondary
Alhambra - ALH		BC Brown	
Arcadia - ARC		DEP Cerwin	
Burbank - BRK		DEP Hatch	
Bob Hope Airport - HBA		AC Pianka*	
Glendale - GLN		Dep Stavros	BC Gano*
Monrovia - MRV		DC Morton*	
Montebello - MTB		AC Estrada*	BC Barker*
Monterey Park - MPK		BC Weddle	
Pasadena - PAS		DEP Sell	DEP James*
San Gabriel - SGB		FC Wallace	
San Marino - SNM		FC Rueda*	
Sierra Madre - SMD			
South Pasadena - SPS			
West Covina- WCV		AC Browne	
Verdugo Fire Comm.		BC Ambrose, Jason Pfau, Jason Garrett	
Other		Gordan Arnold, Dr. Loza*, Heather Calka*, Soraya Sotherlin*	

\*Virtual



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### 1.Center Update/Ongoing Business:

- a. BC update
  - a. WCV Go-Live was 2/16/24, WCV moved to Verdugo Comm plans on 3/6/24 @0800. The project used a new way to handle the cradlepoints which allows City to use their own network provider as well as use CP for wireless radio programming. This was previously a proof-of-concept developed by Verdugo and GLN IT.
  - b. 3 FCO trainees on the floor – 2 in call-taking and 1 starting radio training end of March. One completing backgrounds, as soon as the next candidate starts (expected early April) we will add another to background process.
  - c. Anastasia is returning from leave late March.
  - d. Gor's position will be posted as Public Safety Business Coordinator
- b. Center Manager update – Garrett – late arrival due to schedule conflict.
  - a. No major issues reported by dispatchers after WCV transition.
  - b. Currently testing the next CAD update.
- c. Technology Update:
  - a. Reddinet – Passwords will now expire, also asked not to use public email. If you are an admin please check your user emails.
  - b. FirstWatch – Interface currently in testing.
  - c. Mobility – New version currently in testing.
  - d. CommandPoint and ViewPoint – New versions currently in testing, will be downtime to go LIVE, date to be determined.
  - e. Working on re-establishing AVL CAD once the ESRI GeoServer licensing issue has been resolved GeoServer license is updated to expire on 09/24/2025.
  - f. Upgrade to ArcGIS 11.1 on hold until ESRI issues a security patch for recently found software vulnerability.
  - g. Top Golf Added to GIS and as a commonplace. Oscar has been working with MTB to ensure GIS is correct
- d. Finance/Data/Power BI
  - a. Gor is still working PT on Fridays and has updated the Power BI, as mentioned, we will be starting a recruitment for his position.
  - b. BC Ambrose has been meeting with the tri-city Finance directors and the increase will be determined by the end of March. If you need estimates please contact BC Ambrose.
- e. EMS Update – Dr. Loza gave a presentation on the recent TCPR data and QA/QI of the program. Review of recent calls where patient outcomes were positively impacted by dispatcher intervention (choking call in PAS). HBA (Pianka) asked if we could find a way to do TCPR via the tower line. Discussion of ePCR, which are handled by BRK. RN Calka reported via Loza that all Cities are now sharing data for quality improvement. Dr. Loza also discussed an NIH study we are participating in which examines language barriers and pre-arrival instructions.

### 2. Old Business,

- a. Tablet Command
  - a. Two-way Status - The quote and scope of work was recently given back to Peraton with edits and we are awaiting their response. We



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have an onsite meeting with their team in May and a call next week to discuss the delays.

- b. Tablet Command Training Group – Hatch. The group had a successful meeting and several templates have been designed. BRK is hosting a sharepoint site for all of the TC template info. Ambrose to follow up on admin permission changes with TC. The work group also successfully worked on simulations for future training. Each agency will need to select an admin for Tablet Command if they have not already done so. Dep Stavros inquired on connectivity and it was explained that connectivity is with the sim provider, or can be improved using the cradle point connection. The WCV project, mentioned in TECH report, explains the changes being made to improve connectivity.
  - c. Tablet Command Radio – You will see the radios on TC, with TICP changes this project was delayed but is near completion. Ambrose reported that Gordon Arnold and team have set up the system in test and it looks/and sounds very good. The audio should be deployed very soon.
  - b. Smart Dispatch – Sell/Ambrose – meeting scheduled with San Diego, Long Beach, and MetroNet. (delayed due to WCV onboarding) will be re-scheduled soon. We now have a template to use for making dispatch changes. Data to be reviewed at April TF meeting.
  - c. Area C BC training update – Rueda. Ambrose suggested using the next training for Tablet Command review, Rueda agreed, and we will work on dates.
  - d. MCI Alarm – Zanteson – the MCI work group has finished the draft several suggestions were made by the OPS Chiefs. Changes will be updated and the project added to April agenda. The goal remains to establish a simple table to assist first in Captains on an MCI and keeping everyone on the same page.
3. New Business
- a. DMAC – presentation by DMAC Soraya Sotherlin. Presentation on the County rollout of the new zonehaven and establishing evacuation zones. Discussion on utilizing Verdugo as part of Genasys/zonehaven workflow. The operational workflow will be in coordination with Verdugo and each of the EM's for Area C. Each City will be defining their zones and the DMAC will work directly with you to make sure they are correct. There was also discussion on the naming format and process of implementing an evacuation. The genasys zones will be viewable on Tablet Command. Each agency will need to identify a 24/7 contact.
  - b. Hydrant GIS – It was discovered that Pasadena had a different hydrant data set so Oscar (Verdugo GIS) was working with Jonathan (PAS IT) to ensure all hydrants are accounted for. Also, they are looking at ARCGIS



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tools to update field information for hydrants. More to follow next task force meeting.

- c. Verdugo Arson TF – the group will be presenting their plan to TF next month for awareness. The group has been working to improve arson response and collaboration across all of the Verdugo agencies including West Covina.
- d. DAW – Dispatcher appreciation is the week of April 14-20
- e. STEN Refresher - 4/29, 5/2, and 5/3 (0900-1200) Sign up using the form on the morning report email. Thanks to Chief Owings and Chief Weddle for teaching the course.

4. Significant Incidents:

5. Round Table

**AC Browne (WCV)** – Firefighter tests in summer, only a few vacancies, process of putting a quint and two engines in service, 5 ambulances, changed to VFCC com plan with e-trigger.

**DEP Hatch (BRK)** – Two laterals in training, looking at another academy of 14, testing all ranks, new truck in the spring and water tender this summer, plus three engines.

**FC Rueda (SNM)** – All good in San Marino

**AC Pianka HBA** – March 27<sup>th</sup> full scale event MCI with mockup firefighting, three-year drill to satisfy FAA needs, Tri City Command staff meeting last week, we are welcome to have Task force at airport.

**BC Barker (MTB)** – Continue to push recruitment effort, approved to staff 4/0 at 23 a day (from 17), will be implementing squads, new ladder truck later this year, new engines on the horizon, engineers (lateral) test and captains test soon. Top Golf in final stages and 1200 new properties going up on the hill – a new stations is in the long term plan

**SMD** – No report

**SPS** – No report

**FC Wallace (SGB)**: Thanks to Verdugo for assistance with Taiwan visit, one vacancy on paper, wrap up entry level recruitment and Division Chief test (external).

**DC Morton (MRV)** – engineer promotion this month, open up spots for medic and FF, several EE on injury, staffing is difficult.

**DEP Sell (PAS)**: - Lateral recruitment, 40 to 20 and now interviews on the 25<sup>th</sup>, new hire process posting this week starting Oct Nov, new truck, AU, patrol, new ambulances, deployed the [firesync – applet](#), engineer test March 18<sup>th</sup>, July is PAS command staff swap.

**BC Weddle (MPK)** - Chief Thomson wrapping up first month as interim FC, opened FF and FFPM recruitment, MPK is participating in the Vista Forge Nuclear exercise the end of April. Question: has anyone made a decon policy related to Li-ion battery fires? Decon of turnouts after Li-ion fire is expensive. Chief Sell mentioned an incident out of the area (attached). Chief Weddle will be attending an event on Li-ion hosted by SAFER. TICP24 changes are coming.

**DEP Cerwin (ARC)** – AO program rolled out in all three districts for EMS and rescues, 8am to 730pm, hired a new lateral PM in backgrounds, hired fire prevention aide.

**DC Stavros (GLN)** – 6 in academy week 4, engineer academy in May, put one or two bls units in service daytime hours, squad or RA, constant staffing of USAR (per BC Gano)



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**BC Brown (ALH)** - graduated 5 new FFPM, bought WCV ambulance, MSA SCBA's  
**FCSS Miranda (VFCC)** – welcome to WCV, call with any questions call 24/7, if you have promotions, let us know so the system can be updated, phone number change, personnel input form on website, premise histories – keep us up to date on those, Kadia will send out lists of who is in system, we are also available for promotional tests.

**Jason Garrett – Verdugo** – training new members, 4 new for the floor

**Gordon Arnold (ICI)** – TC mobile audio is in test mode, will be up soon, still getting equipment but tests are going well.

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**Next Task Force Meeting: April 9, 2024**